

REMARKS

Applicants have included herewith a PTO-1449 form listing additional references for consideration by the Examiner. Copies of the references not previously considered by the Examiner in the parent application which issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,261,291 are enclosed herewith.

Applicants believe that the pending claims of this reissue application are directed to patentable subject matter and respectfully request examination and allowance of these claims.

Respectfully submitted:



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.:

SERIAL NO.:

R0372-00101

10/620,154

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

UNDER 37 CFR §1.56, §1.97, and §1.98

PTO-1449 FORM

SHEET 1 OF 2

APPLICANTS:

EXAMINER

Talaber et al.

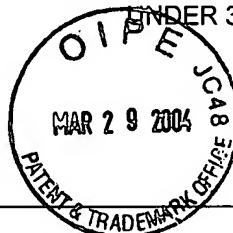
Not yet assigned

FILING DATE:

GROUP ART UNIT:

July 15, 2003

3731



## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

† EX'R INITIAL	*REF. #	PATENT NUMBER	DATE (MO/YR)	NAME	U.S. CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (If appropriate)
	*A1	3,350,103	10/67	Ahlstone		
	*A2	3,863,959	2/75	Blaschke		
	*A3	4,017,946	4/77	Soja		
	*A4	4,280,742	7/81	Justman		
	*A5	4,488,543	12/84	Tornier		
	*A6	4,662,461	5/87	Garrett		
	*A7	4,696,290	9/87	Steffee		
	*A8	5,054,347	10/91	Johnson et al.		
	*A9	5,169,597	12/92	Davidson et al.		
	*A10	5,275,601	1/94	Gogolewski et al.		
	*A11	5,364,399	11/94	Lowery et al.		
	*A12	5,372,660	12/94	Davidson et al.		
	*A13	5,509,933	4/96	Davidson et al.		
	*A14	5,520,690	5/96	Errico et al.		
	*A15	5,534,032	7/96	Hodorek		
	*A16	5,569,251	10/96	Baker et al.		
	*A17	5,578,034	11/96	Estes		
	*A18	5,601,552	2/97	Trebing et al.		
	*A19	5,607,426	3/97	Ralph et al.		
	*A20	5,643,265	7/97	Errico et al.		
	*A21	5,725,588	3/98	Errico et al.		
	*A22	5,735,853	4/98	Olerud		
	*A23	5,785,711	7/98	Errico et al.		
	*A24	5,807,396	9/98	Ravch		
	*A25	5,810,819	9/98	Errico et al.		
	*A26	5,843,082	12/98	Yuan et al.		
	*A27	5,876,402	3/99	Errico et al.		
	*A28	5,879,389	3/99	Koshino		
	*A29	5,904,683	5/99	Pohndorf		
	*A30	5,928,243	7/99	Guyer		
	*A31	5,935,133	8/99	Wagner et al.		
	*A32	5,961,518	10/99	Errico et al.		

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	*A33	5,964,769	10/99	Wgner et al.		
	*A34	5,989,250	11/99	Wagner et al.		
	*A35	5,997,539	12/99	Errico et al.		
	*A36	6,017,344	1/00	Errico et al.		
	*A37	6,030,389	2/00	Wagner et al.		
	*A38	6,045,579	4/00	Hochshuler et al.		
	*A39	6,053,921	4/00	Wagner et al.		
	*A40	6,117,173	9/00	Taddia et al.		
	A41	6,139,550	10/00	Michelson		
	A42	6,193,721	2/01	Michelson		
	A43	6,342,055	1/02	Eiserman		
	A44	6,398,783	6/02	Michelson		
	A45	6,620,163	9/03	Michelson		

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

† EX'R INITIAL	*REF. #	PATENT NUMBER	DATE (MO/YR)	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION (YES/NO)
	*B1	DE 4409833 A1	10/95	Germany	
	*B2	DE 19545612 A1	6/97	Germany	
	*B3	WO 98/17188	4/98	PCT	
	*B4	WO 98/48739	11/98	PCT	
	*B5	WO 99/00904	3/99	PCT	

EXAMINER'S SIGNATURE

DATE CONSIDERED

† EXAMINER: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609.

Line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.

Include copy of this form in next communication to applicant.

\* If an asterisk is placed beside the reference number, a copy is not provided because the reference was previously cited by or submitted to the PTO in a prior application that is identified in the statement and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120. 37 C.F.R. 1.98(d).